

## SENATE RESOLUTION 175

By Faulk

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Lonas Hurd Tarr of  
Jefferson City.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Lonas Hurd Tarr; and

WHEREAS, Lonas Tarr was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, raised in Jefferson City, Mr. Tarr graduated from Carson-Newman College in May of 1941 and joined the United States Army Air Corp in November of the same year; and

WHEREAS, after completing his pilot's training, he was assigned to the Ferry Command Unit, where his job was to deliver airplanes all over the world. During his term with the Ferry Command Unit, Lonas Tarr delivered B-25s to the British and A-20 attack bombers to the Russian allies in Iran; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tarr was transferred to Air Transport just before D-Day, in which unit he transported military personnel throughout France and Germany and took part in secret missions to fly sensitive documents in and out of Switzerland; and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of the war, Mr. Tarr served as chief pilot in Naples, Italy. Eager to return to civilian life, Lonas Tarr declined the opportunity to serve as personal pilot for General Dwight D. Eisenhower and instead accepted a position with American Airlines; and

WHEREAS, in 1952, he was asked by American Airlines to set up the International Division of Air India. That same year, his father died, and Lonas Tarr took a leave of absence to return home and settle his father's affairs; and

WHEREAS, while in Jefferson City, he decided to stay and purchased the Chevrolet dealership; and

WHEREAS, on May 1, 1952, Lonas Tarr opened Tarr Chevrolet for business. For more than fifty years, Mr. Tarr served with acumen and alacrity as the owner and proprietor of Tarr Chevrolet, in which position he earned the respect of his staff and customers alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, upon his relocation to Jefferson City, Lonas Tarr became active in many church, civic, and community affairs. He continued his family tradition of support for Carson-Newman College, serving over forty years on the Board of Trustees, overseeing the building of the Music Building, endowing several scholarships for students with financial needs, and supporting financially many other endeavors at the College; and

WHEREAS, on May 10, 1997, Lonas Tarr was awarded the college's highest honor, an Honorary Doctorate of Letters; and

WHEREAS, a generous supporter of his fellow citizens, Mr. Tarr gave food baskets to the needy during the holidays and anonymously met the needs of many other individuals; and

WHEREAS, throughout the years, Mr. Tarr maintained his pilot's and flight instructor's licenses until his early eighties, taking clients and friends up in his small private plane to show them the geography of the area viewed from the air; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, Mr. Tarr was honored by Chevrolet as a "50 Year Dealer" and for having the oldest Chevrolet dealership in the state under original management; and

WHEREAS, Lonas Tarr was an active and devout member of the First Baptist Church in Jefferson City, which he served faithfully for many years as a life deacon, Sunday school teacher, and member of several committees; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tarr was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Lonas Tarr enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Helen Tarr, and was the proud father and father-in-law of William "Bill" and Deirdre Tarr, Jack and Kathy Tarr, and Judy Tarr and Warren Gooch; and

WHEREAS, he is further survived by his eleven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tarr leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Lonas Hurd Tarr, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Tarr.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.